

// A special meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg, recessed from March 23, was held on the 30th day of March, 2004, at 1:00 P.M., in the Second Floor Training Room, City Hall, Carl B. Hutcherson, Jr., President, presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a work session regarding several items.

The following Members were present:

Present: Adams, Barksdale, Dodson, Foster, Garber, Seiffert, Hutcherson

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Absent:

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// Parks and Recreation Director Kay Frazier provided an overview regarding reestablishing a boat ramp on City property at the foot of Seventh Street. Ms. Frazier explained that the City-owned property is currently leased to Griffin Pipe Company for their use as a parking lot and storage area. City Manager Kimball Payne informed City Council that either party can terminate the lease upon sixty days written notice and that the current lease reserves to the City the right to further develop or improve the demised premises for the benefit of the City. Mr. Bob Ingram, Works Manager for Griffin Pipe, expressed concerns regarding the City's plan to reactivate the existing ramp, i.e., liability issues, mixed private/public use, security of the vehicles and materials, and insufficient parking if spaces are dedicated for public use. Ms. Frazier stated that she has met on several occasions with Mr. Ingram regarding his concerns and has recommended that Griffin Pipe build a fence to separate the public from private space. To respond to some of Mr. Ingram's concerns, Council Members suggested limiting the ramp to canoes/boats/kayaks that can be carried on top of a vehicle and not to allow trailers which require more turnaround room and larger parking spaces. City Council also requested that the ramp be designated for boat ingress/egress alone and that loitering and fishing from the banks next to the ramp should be prohibited. City Council asked that staff proceed with plans to reestablish the public boat ramp as outlined above, and to bring those plans back to City Council, including both start-up and ongoing costs, at a future Council meeting. City Council also asked that staff continue to partner with Griffin Pipe in the development of the plans.

// City Manager Kimball Payne along with Fire Chief Buddy Martinette presented information regarding additional increases in the City's ambulance transport rates. Fire Chief Martinette explained that while these proposed increases are of considerable magnitude, a significant increase in the City's rates is necessary before the Medicare "Blended Fee" Schedule reaches its final level on January 1, 2006. Mr. Payne noted that these increases would generate \$600,000 in additional revenue. City Council agreed to add these increases to the list of revenue sources for discussion during the budget process.

// City Council continued with individual budget presentations from the Commonwealth Attorney, Sheriff, Fleet Services, and Airport. Staff reviewed briefly the budgets for Non-Departmental, City/Federal/State Aid Fund, and Civic, Community and Regional Organizations. During the Greater Lynchburg Transit Company (GLTC) budget presentation, General Manager Mike Carroll outlined some options that the GLTC Board will be considering in lieu of eliminating night bus service. City Council briefly reviewed the FY2005-2009 Capital Improvements Plan.

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// In preparation for finalizing the budget, City Council asked that staff contact the Virginia Retirement System to get an update on the numbers and determine whether the City can opt out of continued participation in the supplement to public safety retirees.

// The meeting was recessed at 4:18 p.m. to March 31, at 1:00 p.m., to conduct a work session regarding proposed changes to the City's sign ordinance.

Clerk of Council